

Letter dated 21/01/2007

Dear Laurence,

Here are some documents for your book. I've had the interview with Emmanuelle TAT photocopied.

If you read *Ivre de Tao (Drunken with Tao)* Li Po by Daniel Giraud, Albin Michel Editions, you will understand Tao thought, especially that of Tchouang Tseu.

Asian learning used to be based on 3 doctrines : Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoïsm. Confucianism was action, active life, while Taoïsm was the retreat from active life. Here man lives in harmony with nature, he is part of nature and follows its evolution. The practice of Buddhism and Taoïsm has points in common but Buddhism requires us to act in order to attain vacuity. A long time ago there used to be "politicians" in Asia ; during their professional life they practiced Buddhism (as can be seen on the part of the poet-painter Wang Wei, a contemporary of Li Po and Tou Fou, 8th century).

If you wish to read "The complete works of Tchouang Tseu" (Gallimard editions), I can lend it to you. The preface of this book may help you to grasp the essential of his thought. I shall also send you several poems that I am using for recent works.

Thank you for your work, in which I wish you all the best.

Yours sincerely.

Translation : Lilian and Jean Rossi